

flood control, and cheap, renewable hydroelectric power. Put simply, we need more dams, not fewer.

For those reasons, it is troubling that we are even here discussing this issue. We need to change the current regulatory structure that gives perceived "environmental benefits" unyielding priority—often at unbearable cost—over the social and economic benefits provided to people by dams and other wise-use of our resources: These laws and regulations have forced the owner and operator of the dams on the Klamath River to a point where decommissioning these facilities—by way of the Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement—is the least-cost option for its customers and ratepayers in California and elsewhere, as opposed to relicensing. These laws and regulations also caused the tragic 2001 water shutoff that affected 1,200 farm families in the Klamath Basin and led them to enter into this settlement process in the hopes of bringing greater stability and water reliability to the Basin in order to continue their way of life.

It represents a monumental failure at the federal level when we consider that, under the laws and regulations that are on the books at this moment, there is currently no alternative that will allow these facilities to be operated as cost-effectively as it had during the several decades of its previous license term, or allow the federal government to fully meet the obligations it made over a century ago with the development of the Klamath Reclamation Project.

I say this to make the point that, unfortunately, this amendment by itself will not address the real underlying issue—the appalling environmental extortion that continues to affect property owners across the rural West and the hardworking people who put food on our tables and provide the raw materials that make life comfortable for the rest of us. Clearly, our laws are grossly out of balance, and I look forward to working with Chairman MCCLINTOCK, Chairman HASTINGS, Mr. WALDEN and my other colleagues to implement the necessary environmental reforms to prevent the continued degradation of our economic infrastructure at the hands of environmental activists and bring greater certainty to the Klamath Basin's agricultural community.

HONORING ANNE THEROUX

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 3, 2011

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of one hundred years of inspiration and joy that Anne Theroux of Massachusetts has given to those fortunate enough to know her well. A 35-year resident of Cape Cod, Anne turns 100 years old on March 4 and continues to thrive in her West Dennis home, as independent as ever before.

Mother to seven, grandmother to thirteen, and great-grandmother to fifteen children, Anne has maintained an energy and youthfulness beyond her 100 years. She has served her community with many years of teaching elementary school, and she is known to always have a book in hand or story to share. Anne

continues to exercise her intellect as an ace crossword puzzle enthusiast, and has participated as a member of the woodcarving group at the Dennis Senior Center, where she brings the spirit of Cape Cod to each and every one of her bird carvings.

And so, surrounded by her loving children, extended family, and many friends, Anne will celebrate her centennial with a luncheon honoring her 100th birthday. I wish Anne and her whole family best wishes for many years to come.

THANKING THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA FOR SUPPORTING THE VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL EDUCATION CENTER

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 3, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, next week the Prime Minister of Australia, the Honorable Julia Gillard, will be in Washington, DC on a state visit. This will be Prime Minister Gillard's first visit to Washington since becoming Prime Minister in June of last year; and her visit will also mark the 60th anniversary of the U.S.-Australia alliance.

In addition to many other official meetings and ceremonies, Prime Minister Gillard will take time out of her schedule to present a \$3 million check from the Australian government to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund to help build the Education Center at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Regrettably, a last minute scheduling conflict is going to prevent me from attending this ceremony, but I want to extend my deep appreciation and thanks to the Prime Minister and the Australian people for this very generous contribution.

Australia has always been a steadfast ally and partner to the United States. This contribution further underscores the deep ties of kinship and friendship between Australia and the United States.

Many Americans tend to think of the Vietnam War as a solely American conflict. In reality the conflict involved troops from a number of nations, including Australia. Between 1962 and 1972 approximately 60,000 Australian military personnel served in Vietnam. Australia's soldiers had a distinguished and remarkable record of service and courage in Vietnam where more than 500 were killed, and some 3,000 were wounded or disabled defending the South Vietnamese people from communist aggression.

For Australia, as well as the United States, the Vietnam War was the longest major military conflict in which Australians have been involved. Completed in 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Constitution Gardens adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial has become one of our Nation's more recognized and beloved memorials. Some 3 million visitors each year come to view The Wall and not only reflect upon those who suffered and died in Vietnam but how this nation let that generation of Americans down when they returned home.

Ninety-one thousand eight hundred Hoosiers served in Vietnam and the names of the

1,530 who died in Vietnam are etched on The Wall. The Education Center, which will be built adjacent to the Wall, will help educate future generations of Americans by sharing the stories of these exceptional individuals from Indiana and across the America, who served their country with honor. By telling these stories visitors will hopefully understand the courage, sacrifice and devotion of those who fell, those who returned, and those who waited for their loved ones to come home. Along the way, visitors will also discover how the Memorial shaped the way Americans mourn, and the vital part The Wall played in helping to heal the bitter divisions that tore at our nation's heart and soul.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Prime Minister Gillard for her leadership, her friendship and her dedication to helping us to ensure that the Education Center gets built so that the voice of the 58,000 plus names on the Wall and the millions of Americans—and thousands of Australians—who fought in the Vietnam War can be heard and remembered. And I also ask my colleagues to join me in extending my heartfelt appreciation to the people of Australia for their support and friendship.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AMENDMENTS, 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 1, 2011

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I agree with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that we must get our fiscal house in order. That is why Democrats sought to cut more than \$40 billion from the President's 2011 budget request in December. We have a responsibility to our constituents to evaluate every program and determine whether it merits taxpayer funding.

Although I will vote for it, I do not support every cut in the underlying bill. We must make targeted reductions that make our government more efficient while prioritizing critical investments in innovation if we are to remain a global leader. Instead of reducing our deficit by eliminating education programs, we should find savings by ending taxpayer-funded subsidies to large oil companies, which fleece taxpayers of tens of billions of dollars.

However, it is imperative that Congress do everything it can, and reach common ground whenever possible, to avoid a government shutdown. We cannot allow for the possibility of seniors going without Social Security checks or veterans losing access to the health benefits they have earned.

The seven month continuing resolution the House passed in February is a dangerous bill that would create not a single job, hurt federal programs essential to economic growth, and compromise our security. We must adopt this short-term continuing resolution to keep the government operating while we negotiate spending for the remainder of the fiscal year that will continue economic growth.